



State of Arizona
Department of Education

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Superintendent of
Public Instruction

Request for Proposals – March 14, 2005

Enhancing Education Through Technology Grants – NCLB Title IID

The Arizona Department of Education is seeking projects that meet the criteria described below, in addressing the technology needs of local education agencies (LEAs). We will provide technical assistance during the RFP (Request for Proposals) through scheduled workshops and through the ADE Regional Training Centers and their staff.

Authority:

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, *No Child Left Behind* (Public Law 107-110, Title II, Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology, or the Ed Tech Grant.

Distribution of Ed Tech Funds:

Ed Tech federal funding is approximately \$9,183,766 for FY06, disbursed as follows:

- **State activities and initiatives** -- five percent (5%) for administration
- **Formula Grants (\$4,362,289)** – 47.5 percent of the remainder will be disbursed using the *Title I formula*, to LEAs that apply through the Consolidated Plan Application.
- **Discretionary grants (\$4,362,289)** – 47.5 percent of the remainder will be disbursed through *a competitive process*, open to eligible local entities that follow application procedures identified in this RFA document.

Purpose of NCLB's Ed Tech Program:

- To improve student academic achievement through the use of technology in elementary and secondary schools.
- To assist every student – regardless of race, ethnicity, income, geographical location, or disability – in becoming technologically literate by the end of eighth grade.
- To encourage the effective integration of technology resources and systems with professional development and curriculum development to promote research-based instructional methods that can be widely replicated.

Equitable Participation Provisions:

Reminder: Since 1965, school districts are required to provide timely and meaningful consultation with private school officials within their boundaries for equitable use of federal funding. This includes Title IID, both formula and discretionary. More information may be found in section L-1 of the Enhancing Education Through Technology Guidance Document, found at: http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/downloads/ed_tech_guidance.pdf and <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/nonpublic/index.html>.

Accountability:

- NCLB requires that each State and each LEA develop accountability measures and a process for evaluating the extent to which the activities carried out with program funds are effective in supporting the integration of technology into curriculum and instruction, and improving academic achievement.
- It also requires that 25 percent of the funds received by the LEA in either formula or competitive award be used for professional development.
- All funded projects must require all teachers participating in the grant to take three sections of ASSET's 360° Technology Assessment, Diagnostic, Knowledge and Environment, at the beginning and at the end of the project.
- All proposals must allocate 2% of the total budget in order to participate in a statewide student technology assessment.
- Each grant proposal will include a completed **Evaluation Plan template**. (<http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/tlcdownloads.asp>).
- If the project is funded, LEA must send appropriate staff to an Accountability Workshop organized by ADE. Grant proposals should include sufficient travel funds for attendance at this workshop.
- ADE or its designated representative will monitor the project.

Formula Funds Disbursement:

- Formula funds under Title II-D will be disbursed as the result of completing the online Consolidated Application.
- Funds will be allocated among LEAs based on Title I formula.
- Legislation requires an LEA to have a current, state-approved technology plan that covers the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006.
- The Arizona Department of Education Academic Achievement Division sends out formal notification letters to all LEAs regarding their Title allocations at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Discretionary Grants:

There are three types of discretionary grants - Documents and instructions for applying for this funding can be found at the website: <http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/tlcdownloads.asp>.

- 1) **Comprehensive Implementation Grants** - Districts and charters not funded in FY03, FY04, or FY05 that meet the eligibility criteria may compete for approximately \$862,289 in this competition.
- 2) **Continuing Ed Tech Funding** - Projects that were funded in FY 03 and/or FY04, and/or FY05 (eligible list may be found at <http://www.ade.az.gov/technology> - [Competitive Ed Tech Grants](#)) may apply for this competition. Approximately \$2,000,000 is available for this competition.
- 3) **Statewide Instructional Technology Project** – Approximately \$1,500,000 for this competition. See separate RFP for this competition at: <http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/tlcdownloads.asp>.

Eligible LEAs:

Only eligible local entities that are either “high-need local educational agency” or an “eligible local partnership” may apply. A “high-need local educational agency” is defined as an LEA that receives Title IA funds and:

- a. Those LEAs whose Title I data indicates that they have an average of 29% or more of their students in poverty (Title I poverty criteria is derived from a formula which includes census data as required by NCLB Title IID legislation, no longer free lunch data as used in past years). See the LEA Eligible list.

OR

- b. A single large district whose Title I data indicates that more than 15,000 of their students live in poverty;

AND

- c. Serves one or more schools identified for improvement or corrective action;

OR

- d. Has substantial need for assistance in acquiring and using technology.

Note: This poverty criterion has changed from past years. The Title I Unit of the Department of Education uses census data as part of the current formula, as required by Title IID federal legislation. A list of Qualifying LEAs that meet the 29% or higher poverty criteria may be found at:

<http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/tlcdownloads.asp>.

Partnerships or Consortiums:

Partnerships or consortiums are encouraged by NCLB. This allows an ineligible LEA, by the criteria above, to partner with an eligible LEA. However, the proposed project needs to clearly show how the partnership will benefit the high-need eligible LEA. An eligible local partnership is one that includes **at least one high-need LEA, AND at least one of the following:**

- (1) An LEA that can demonstrate that teachers in its schools are effectively integrating technology and proven practices into instruction, and that the integration results in improvement in classroom instruction and in helping students meet challenging academic standards.
- (2) An institution of higher education that is in full compliance with the reporting requirements of section 207(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and that has not been identified by the State as low-performing under the Act.
- (3) A for-profit business or organization that develops, designs, manufactures, or produces technology products or services or has substantial expertise in the application of technology in instruction.
- (4) A public or private nonprofit organization with demonstrated expertise in the application of education technology in instruction.
- (5) May also include other LEAs, educational service agencies, libraries, or other educational entities appropriate to provide local programs.
- (6) In order to qualify for continuing funding, the partnership/consortium must include the same qualifying partner. If the qualifying partner is new, then the partnership/consortium must apply for the competitive grants on a first year basis.

Estimated Range of Awards:

Awards will range from \$5,000 to \$150,000 for applications from a single LEA, and up to \$200,000 (maximum) for a partnership for **Continuing Ed Tech Funding** and **Comprehensive Implementation Grants**. The scope and size of the project, the number of students served, the request of the applicant, and recommendations from the ***Peer Review Process*** will be some of the final determining factors in the actual amount of the awards, within these ranges. *(If funds requested by the original proposal are decreased upon award, the eligible local entities may adjust goals, budget, etc, accordingly.)*

Project Dates:

Projects will be funded for one year, from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

Peer Review Process – Proposal Evaluation Criteria:

The **Continued Ed Tech Funding** and the **Comprehensive Implementation** applications will be evaluated and scored based on a rubric by teams of peer reviewers. The Evaluation Rubric and Weighted Point Value documents used are available from the Department as downloads at

<http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/tlcdownloads.asp>.

Extra Points:

A maximum of **20 bonus points** will be awarded to applicants who address meeting the ADE Mathematics initiative in their proposal **and**:

- address the needs of schools that have been identified by ADE as needing improvement or corrective action,
- OR who will receive less than \$5,000 in funding from the formula portion of the Ed Tech Program,

How Can Ed Tech Funds be Used?

Requirements: All proposals must have the following expenditures as part of their proposal:

1. First and foremost, the Ed Tech program requires that no less than twenty-five percent (25%) of any funds received under Ed Tech are used for on-going high quality professional development.
2. All proposals must allocate 2% of the total funding in order to participate in a statewide student technology assessment.
3. Travel allotment to the ADE Title IID Accountability Workshop to be held at the beginning of the 05-06 school year.

The remainder of the funds may be used to:

- Assist States and LEAs in implementing and supporting a comprehensive system that effectively uses technology to improve student academic achievement, with strong emphasis on assisting schools needing improvement.
- Encourages the establishment or expansion of initiatives (including those involving public-private partnerships) that are designed to increase access to technology in schools identified as “high-need local education agencies.”
- Assists States and localities in the acquisition, development, interconnection, implementation, improvement, and maintenance of an effective educational technology infrastructure in a manner that expands accessibility of technology to students (particularly disadvantaged students) and teachers.
- Supports initiatives that enable school personnel and administrators to integrate technology effectively into curriculum and instruction that are aligned with State standards, through such means as high-quality professional development programs.
- Enhances ongoing professional development for teachers, principals, and administrators by providing constant access to training and updated research in teaching and learning through electronic means.
- Supports the development and use of electronic networks and other innovative methods, such as distance learning, to provide specialized or rigorous courses or curricula to students who would not otherwise have access to such information, particularly to those in geographically isolated regions.
- Supports local efforts to use technology to promote parent and family involvement in education and to enhance communication among students, parents, and school personnel.
- Supports the rigorous evaluation of programs funded under the Ed Tech Act, particularly regarding the impact of these programs on student academic achievement, and ensures that the results are widely accessible through electronic means.
- All Ed Tech funds must be used to **supplement** the technology initiatives and goals of the LEA, **not supplant**.

Application Dates:

Competition opens on Monday, March 14, 2005 and closes on Friday, April 22, 2005. All proposals must be **RECEIVED** at ADE, 1535 W. Jefferson Street, BIN 31, Phoenix, AZ 85007, or delivered to Room 121, **by 5:00 PM on the closing day, Friday, April 22, 2005.**

Application Requirements – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW EXPLICITLY:

The proposals for the **Comprehensive Implementation Grant** and the **Continued Ed Tech Funding Grant** will consist of the criteria listed below. All documents and the correct specifications listed below must be followed and adhered to in order for the proposal to be considered complete and in the competition. **We will not make copies for an applicant; it is the responsibility of the applicant to meet all requirements and have the correct number of copies of all documents requested.**

☐ **Ed Tech Application Document (4 applications)** – One original, signed in blue ink by the authorized agent for the LEA whether applying singularly or as the fiscal agent for the consortium or partnership and three copies. The 2006 Ed Tech Application may be found at <http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/tlcdownloads.asp>.

☐ **One electronic copy of the Ed Tech Application and Strategic Long-Term Technology Plan.** (Submit on a CD-ROM.)

☐ **Four (4) copies of the LEAs Strategic Long-Term Technology Plan, whether on file with ADE or not:**

- The plan must cover a period of **three-years**, including **FY06**, which clearly lists the goals, activities, and expenditures, for which the LEA is applying for in this grant competition.
- If the LEA already has an approved technology plan on file with ADE, the applicant must submit 4 copies with the application package.
- If the LEA does not have an approved technology plan on file with ADE the Strategic Long-Range Technology Plan template may be downloaded from <http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/TechPlanTemplate05.rtf>.
- If it is a consortium or partnership application, the project must be aligned with the long-range technology plan of the qualifying partner. Each LEA member of the consortia or partnership must have their approved technology plan on file with ADE, or submitted within the RFA.

☐ Completion of the online ADE Technology Survey and include verification that it has been completed in the application package: <http://mycompass.asset.asu.edu/ade>.

FOR CONTINUED ED TECH FUNDING GRANTS ONLY

☐ Completion of the **Continued Funding Evaluation** form and four (4) copies turned in as part of your proposal package. The rubric for evaluating this document and the evaluation form can be found at <http://www.ade.az.gov/technology/tlcdownloads.asp>.

☐ The above **Continued Funding Evaluation** form requests that a finished product that was created as a result of Ed Tech funding (such as: training materials, lesson plans, assessment or evaluation instruments, thematic units, best practices, classroom projects, etc.) be include in electronic format with your application package.

Scoring will be based on the narrative questions that are part of the Ed Tech Application. The technology plan WILL NOT be scored.

Technical Assistance:

Please contact:

- Chris Castillo, Arizona Department of Education, 602-542-5233, ccastil@ade.az.gov
- Teresa Wolfe, Arizona Department of Education, 602-542-7884, twolfe@ade.az.gov

- ADE's Regional Training Centers (RTCs) in the following areas:
Flagstaff, 888-394-1377 Tempe, 480-965-3366
San Simon, 866-830-5128 Tucson, 520-225-4959

Orientation Sessions:

Orientation sessions will be held at ADE Regional Training Center locations throughout the state during the application period, which will be facilitated by Chris Castillo with the ADE. You are strongly encouraged to attend a session. In addition to the sessions listed below, in-depth workshops and individualized assistance will be provided by each RTC during the application period. Sessions begin at 9 AM and end at Noon, unless otherwise noted. Technology plan development will be offered in the afternoon until 3:00 PM, by the RTCs, for anyone needing assistance.

RSVP required for both sessions. On line registration at:
<http://www.ade.az.gov/onlineregistration/calendar/RenderCalendar.asp> - or contact the RTC number provided for each session.

RTC	Session Date	Session Location	RSVP To:
Tempe – MEC Conference	Monday through Wednesday March 14-16	<i>Microcomputers in Education Conference</i> , Arizona State University, Student Memorial Union, On-going Presentations in ADE Strand during conference. Open table for dissemination of information and Poster Showcase of IID Projects. Conference Information: http://mec.asu.edu/2005/	480-965-3366
Flagstaff	Friday, March 18	Flagstaff Unified District, Board Room, 3285 E. Sparrow, Flagstaff, AZ	888-394-1377
Phoenix Area	Monday, March 21	ASU West – 4701 W. Thunderbird Road, Glendale, AZ 85306 (\$2 exit fee for parking)	480-965-3366
Tucson	Wednesday, March 30	Tucson Unified District, LIRC Lab, 2025 W. Winsett, Tucson, AZ	520-225-4959
San Simon	Thursday March 31	San Simon District Computer Lab in San Simon, AZ	866-830-5128